**Chemical reactions colours and summary (Level 1) examiners tips: Read these please!**

• recognise the different reactions, here are some tips…

**combination:** two elements reacting together (joining/combining) to form a NEW substance **decomposition** (both thermal and catalytic): 1 largish compound 🡪 2 or 3 smaller compounds

**precipitation:** (aq) + (aq) 🡪 (s) + (aq) the solid is the precipitate

**displacement:** • a more reactive metal displaces another less reactive metal from a solution if its salt

**•** learn your colours by carrying out experiments and watching vidoes or interactives

recognise and rote learn these…

**Atoms**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mg, Zn, Fe | S | C | Cu |
| grey colour | yellow | black | pink-brown |

**Ions in solution (aq)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cu2+ in hydroxide | Cu2+ in chloride | Pb2+ | Fe2+ | most others |
| blue | blue green | yellow | pale green | colourless |

**Solids (s)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FeS & FeO & CuO  & MnO2 (catalyst) | CuCO3 & FeCO3 | Cu(OH)2 | PbO or PbCO3 (hot) | ZnO (hot) | ZnO (cold) | most others |
| black | green | blue  and gelatinous  (as a precipitate) | yellow | yellow | white | white |

**Molecules**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cl2 gas | H2O |
| pale yellow green gas | colourless |

**•** positive test for water: cobalt chloride paper turns from a **blue** to a **pink** colour

**Also…”don’t be daft”**

So, if the question asks for observations, provide them! Both initial and final

the statement "iron is silver" is NON-SENSICAL

a correct statement would be "iron metal has a silver/grey COLOUR"

sulphur burns with a blue flame

magnesium burns with a bright, white light

never, EVER clear, if there is no colour, then COLOURLESS

as regards observations bubbling is the SAME as fizzing which is the SAME as effervescence

If asked to compare and contrast then write…”a similarity is..” and “a difference is..” then repeat

RTQ2 read the question twice

plan and write your answer sensibly using all of the space that is provided

no, do not waffle, write only relevant information

you must absolutely answer every question, write something

good luck!



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